

REMARKS

The present Amendment After Final Action is made in compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.116. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1, 3-8, 10-13, 15-20, 22-24, 34-39, 42, 43, 45-55, 56, 57, 59, and 60 will be pending in the application. Claims 2, 9, 14, 21, 25-33, 40, 41, 44, 52, 55, and 58 were canceled without prejudice as to their subject matter.

Claims 34-39, 42 and 43 were allowed. Claims 2-8, 10, 11, 14-20, 23, 23, 26, 47-51, 53, 54, 58 and 59 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 was amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 2 and replaces claim 2, which has been canceled.

Allowable claims 6, 10, 11, 18, 22, 23, 47, 51, and 53 were re-written in independent form including all limitations of the base and any preceding claims.

Claim 13 has been amended to include all the limitations of allowable claim 14, which has been canceled.

Claim 24 has been amended to include all the limitations of allowable claim 26 which has been canceled.

Claim 57 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 58, which has been canceled.

The remaining pending claims are either allowable or depend on allowable claims.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT


The Examiner states that the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and Form 1449 filed fails to comply with CFR 1.98(a)(2). A corrected IDS and Form 1449 form are attached herein. Because the present application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the listed U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications need not be filed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 10, 2005

By: 
David A. McClaughry, Reg. No. 37,885
Maria Comninou, Reg. No. 44,626

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

DAM/MAC/pal

Serial No. 10/729,555

Page 23 of 23